

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MR. LARRY JUANARENA

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the work and accomplishments of a true American hero and patriot, Larry Juanarena, a constituent of mine from Chico, California. For over five decades, Mr. Juanarena, has helped and inspired the residents of Chico.

Mr. Juanarena's work has touched citizens in many sectors of the community. From the Salvation Army, 4-H, to law enforcement and emergency response, Mr. Juanarena is known for providing assistance to those in need. Mr. Juanarena has touched many lives in his community, and has been highly decorated for his dedication and service to his fellow citizens.

Mr. Juanarena is probably best known for his efforts in supporting our Nation's troops and veterans from all wars and conflicts. Having served in the United States Air Force as a crew chief on a B-36 bomber, Mr. Juanarena continues his fight for freedom by supporting the families of our deployed soldiers and warriors through his work with the National Guard Family Assistance Program. Mr. Juanarena's Annual Red, White and Blue dinner has improved the lives of our guard families by providing financial assistance to those in need as they struggle to meet household obligations while their loved ones fight for our great Nation.

Mr. Juanarena continues to be an extraordinary individual who makes significant and lasting contributions to our community through his civic minded leadership and can-do spirit.

Mr. Juanarena exemplifies the notion of responsible citizenship and through his charitable work has touched the lives of many in our community. Mr. Juanarena's selfless actions have inspired a community and demonstrated that one person can make a difference when acting from the heart.

I am privileged to have a friend in Larry Juanarena, and I am extremely grateful for his service to our troops, veterans, and our community-at-large. It is a great privilege to celebrate and honor the accomplishments of a true American hero and patriot.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DAVID JOHN DONAFEE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of David Donafee for a life that was dedicated to his family, friends, and public service.

David was a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service for 14 years. He was tragically killed while delivering mail on his route in Parma Heights, Ohio. David was a devoted father who actively supported his children's interest in hockey, as well as a devoted husband and son. David is survived by his wife, Sandi; his two children, Derek and Liam; and his mother, Rose.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering David Donafee. May his life be an example of how we should lead our own.

GUEST BOOK FOR JOHN DAVID DONAFEE: [HTTP://WWW.LEGACY.COM/CLEVELAND/GB/GUESTBOOKVIEW.ASPX?PERSONID=103615431](http://WWW.LEGACY.COM/CLEVELAND/GB/GUESTBOOKVIEW.ASPX?PERSONID=103615431)
Shellie Rockwell (Broadview Hts., OH)

Sandi, Liam and Derek,
You are in our thoughts and prayers. Just remember that Dave's presence will forever be with everyone that knew him. His love for all three of you, his contagious smile and his easy-going style will be remembered for years to come.

The Rockwell Family

RECOGNIZING APRIL BRANSCOME AS OKALOOSA COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of April Branscome, Okaloosa County's Teacher of the Year.

For over two decades, April Branscome has worked at Niceville High School. Employed initially as a secretary, Ms. Branscome now serves as an information technology instructor and is a savant on educational technology. Her teaching skills range from the conventional to the more cutting-edge. She is excellent in the classroom, possessing an incredible ability to inspire her pupils. Not content to rest upon her laurels, Ms. Branscome has expanded upon her talents and has taken her advanced comprehension of technology to the next level of teaching.

Constructed for Okaloosa's CHOICE IT institute, Ms. Branscome fashioned her own web design curriculum, which resulted in a 100 percent passage rate for students seeking their Internet Webmaster certificate. She is currently being courted by schools throughout the State to train their IT teachers.

Ms. Branscome's ascension to Teacher of the Year did not happen quickly. Shortly after her high school graduation, Ms. Branscome took on a secretarial position at Niceville High School. While working, she became enthralled with education, yet lacked the credentials to teach. For 12 years, taking one or two night and weekend classes at a time, Ms. Branscome finally attained a teaching degree.

The title of Teacher of the Year is an immense honor and is evidence of the greatness Ms. Branscome has attained. Beyond the title lies Ms. Branscome's dedication and devotion to not only her students, but to the entire community. Her teaching skills and affable personality have influenced many and have pushed countless students to a higher level of academic achievement. Ms. Branscome's outstanding accomplishments have distinguished her as one of the great teachers in northwest Florida, and the Okaloosa County School District is honored to have her as one of their own. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize April Branscome on this outstanding achievement and her exemplary service in Okaloosa County.

IN HONOR OF THE BRAVE MINNESOTA MEN AND WOMEN IN BLUE

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, Minnesota has been blessed with 23,000 brave men and women who selflessly police our streets, protect our neighborhoods, and keep our families safe.

These men and women are represented by a truly phenomenal organization. The Minnesota Fraternal Order of Police defends and supports every hero who wears a badge and carries that great and high honor of being called an officer of the law.

No people, no nation, can enjoy the blessings of liberty without the rule of law. Thanks to their tireless dedication and noble sacrifices, the people of our State can live free of fear and safe from harm as they raise their families, live their lives and build their communities.

Our debt to these brave souls can never be paid. But we can start by erecting a wall to honor the inspiring heroes of our State who gave their very lives in their daily battle against every hazard and evil that threatens the peace.

We must never take for granted the sacrifice each and every officer makes, day in and day out, for the people of Minnesota. They have my deepest gratitude and unwavering support.

CONGRATULATING KAREN SKORDINSKI, A RECIPIENT OF THE STATE OF TEXAS EXCELLENCE IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AWARD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Karen Skordinski of Flower Mound, Texas for her many contributions to the State of Texas and the north Texas region. Ms. Skordinski was recently named one of four recipients of the Emergency Management Award for the State of Texas.

The Excellence in Emergency Management Award is presented annually to State and local emergency management projects, activities and campaigns that advance the goals of saving lives and protecting property by mitigating, preparing for, responding to, or recovering from disasters and emergencies in Texas. Recipients of this award must exemplify model emergency management by developing and implementing an exceptional emergency management project, activity or campaign in Texas during the past year.

Ms. Skordinski is acknowledged for her work developing Flower Mound's Emergency Management Plan and for the Community Emergency Response Team, CERT, Program.